

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

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O R 200007Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 116932

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA, US

SUBJECT: FORMAL TERMINATION OF USAID PROVINCIAL OFFICES

REFS: A. VIENTIANE 3464; B. VIENTIANE 3507

1. WE CONCUR IN FORMAL CLOSING USAID PROVINCIAL OFFICES
AND IN YOUR PROPOSAL OF LETTER TO PRIMIN.

2. WE APPROVE YOUR REQUEST TO PRIMIN TO SEND TEAMS TO
CLOSE OFFICES, PAY OFF EMPLOYEES, ETC., BUT ONLY RPT ONLY
IF AUTHORIZED AND ACCOMPANIED BY PGNU REPRESENTATIVES.

3. YOUR REQUESTS TO DISCUSS USAID AND US ASSISTANCE IN
GENERAL WITH FONMIN AND OTHERS WELCOMED AS MOVE TO DEFUSE
POSSIBLE OFFICIAL COMPLAINTS AND PLACE RESPONSIBILITY FOR
ANY FUTURE UNNECESSARY ATTACKS ON USAID WHERE IT
BELONGS. DISCUSSIONS, WHEN HELD, SHOULD GIVE US BETTER
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INSIGHT INTO NEW LEADERSHIP'S THINKING AND WHETHER AN

AID PROGRAM HAS A PLACE IN FUTURE US ROLE IN LAOS.

4. REQUEST THAT FINAL PARAGRAPH YOUR PROPOSED LETTER
READ: QUOTE WE DEEPLY REGRET THAT WE HAVE HAD TO REACH
THIS CONCLUSION. THE WITHDRAWAL OF USAID PROVINCIAL
OFFICES WILL DISRUPT THE FLOW OF ASSISTANCE. NEVERTHELESS,

WE ARE PREPARED TO MEET IMMEDIATELY WITH YOUR
DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS ALTERNATE PROCEDURES
AND SYSTEMS OF IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING PROJECTS
DESIRED BY YOUR GOVERNMENT, SO THAT WE MAY BE ASSURED
THAT THEY ARE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR PREVIOUS
AGREEMENTS AND US LEGISLATION. I WOULD HOPE THAT YOUR
REPRESENTATIVE COULD ALSO ARRANGE FOR THE ORDERLY
CLOSING OF USAID OFFICES AS OUTLINED ABOVE. UNQUOTE.

5. THIS LANGUAGE INTENDED TO REFLECT OUR POLICY JUDGMENT
THAT PROCEDURES SHOULD NOT BE RELAXED IN A WAY THAT
COMPROMISES USAID ABILITY TO ASSURE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION
OF ANY PROJECTS WHICH ARE CONTINUED. INGERSOLL

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